

CLAIMS:

1. A method of writing data to an optical disc, the method comprising:

- controlling a disc drive such that the optical disc is rotated at a first rotational speed which corresponds to a constant linear velocity, and
 - writing data to the optical disc at a first data rate; and
- 5 – in the event of an error writing data to the optical disc:
- writing data into an unformatted region of a defect management area of the optical disc at a second data rate which is higher than the first data rate.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising, in the event of an error writing

- 10 data to the optical disc, controlling the disc drive such that the optical disc continues to rotate at the first rotational speed.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising, in the event of an error writing data to the optical disc, controlling the disc drive such that the optical disc is rotated at a

- 15 second rotational speed which is less than the first rotational speed.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1, the method comprising, before writing data to the optical disc, ensuring that the defect management area of the disc comprises at least one unformatted region.

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5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the method comprises, before writing data to the optical disc, determining whether the defect management area of the disc has at least one unformatted region and, if not, deformatting at least one region thereof.

25 6. A method as claimed in claim 5, comprising performing the deformatting as a background process.

7. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising, after writing data to the optical disc, formatting any remaining unformatted region of the defect management area of the optical disc.

5 8. An optical disc writer, comprising a disc drive for rotating the optical disc, wherein the disc writer is adapted to write data to the optical disc at a first data rate while the optical disc is rotated at a first rotational speed which corresponds to a constant linear velocity, and

10 wherein the disc writer is further adapted, in the event of an error writing data to the optical disc to write data into an unformatted region of a defect management area of the optical disc at a second data rate which is higher than the first data rate.

15 9. An optical disc writer as claimed in claim 8, wherein the disc writer is adapted, in the event of an error writing data to the optical disc, to control the disc drive such that the optical disc continues to rotate at the first rotational speed.

20 10. An optical disc writer as claimed in claim 8, wherein the disc writer is adapted, in the event of an error writing data to the optical disc, to control the disc drive such that the optical disc is rotated at a second rotational speed which is less than the first rotational speed.

11. An optical disc writer as claimed in claim 8, wherein the disc writer is adapted, before writing data to the optical disc, to ensure that the defect management area of the disc comprises at least one unformatted region.

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12. An optical disc writer as claimed in claim 11, wherein the disc writer is adapted, before writing data to the optical disc, to determine whether the defect management area of the disc has at least one unformatted region and, if not, to deformat at least one region thereof.

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13. An optical disc writer as claimed in claim 12, wherein the disc writer is adapted to perform the deformatting as a background process.

14. An optical disc writer as claimed in claim 8, wherein the disc writer is adapted, after writing data to the optical disc, to format any remaining unformatted region of the defect management area of the optical disc.

5 15. An optical disc writer as claimed in claim 8, wherein the disc writer is a DVD+RW disc writer.